

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: TECH, UR, US

SUBJECT:U.S.-U.S.S.R. HOUSING AGREEMENT: MEETINGS OF JOINT
COMMITTEE, JOINT SECRETARIAT, AND WORKING GROUP 10.03

REQUEST EMBASSY ANSMIT FOLLOWING LETTER OF JUNE 12, 1978
TO TARENTIEV OF GOSSTROY:

"OLEG M. TARENTIEV , U.S.S.R. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY,
U.S.-U.S.S.R. JOINT COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION IN THE
FIELD OF HOUSING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION, U.S.S.R. STATE
COMMITTEE FOR CONSTRUCTION AFFAIRS, 12 MARX AVENUE, MOSCOW,
U.S.S.R.

DEAR MR. TARENTIEV:

THE PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER IS TO CONFIRM YOUR DISCUSSIONS
WITH MR. FREEMAN DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE SOVIET
UNION AND TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR THE FORTHCOMING MEETINGS
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OF THE JOINT SECRETARIAT AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

I UNDERSTAND YOU FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE FOR
THE TRAVEL OF VISITORS OTHER THAN OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF
DELEGATIONS IN THE SOVIET UNION IN CONNECTION WITH OUR
AGREEMENT. WHILE YOU HAVE NO OBJECTION TO UNOFFICIAL

TRAVELERS ACCOMPANYING OFFICIAL GROUPS, YOU WOULD PREFER THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR ACCOMMODATIONS AND TRAVEL IN THE SOVIET UNION BE HANDLED BY INTOURIST. YOU ARE, HOWEVER, ABLE TO COORDINATE YOUR PLANS WITH INTOURIST AND ASSURE US THAT THE UNOFFICIAL VISITORS WILL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THE SAME ITINERARIES AS THE OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS. TO INSURE THAT ARRANGEMENTS OF THIS SORT ARE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR THE VISITS, WE UNDERSTAND IT IS NECESSARY THAT INTOURIST BE NOTIFIED OF THE DATES AND ITINERARIES AT LEAST TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE. THESE ARRANGEMENTS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO US, PROVIDED, OF COURSE, YOU ARE ABLE TO ADVISE US OF SUFFICIENT DETAILS IN TIME.

IN THIS CONNECTION, WORKING GROUP 10.03 IS SCHEDULED TO MEET IN THE SOVIET UNION FROM JULY 30 THROUGH AUGUST 13. MR. SIMONS, U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP, HAS RECENTLY ADVISED HIS COUNTERPART, MR. ISHCHENKO, OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE U.S. DELEGATION. IN THAT LETTER, HE ALSO ADVISED MR. ISCHENKO THAT THREE UNOFFICIAL VISITORS WOULD ACCOMPANY OUR GROUP. WE HAVE ASKED INTOURIST TO COORDINATE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH YOU, AND I TRUST YOU WILL BE ABLE TO WORK THEM OUT.

WITH RESPECT TO THE FORTHCOMING MEETING OF THE SECRETARIAT,
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THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE MR. PHILIP E. FOREST AND MYSELF. MR. FOREST WILL ALREADY BE IN THE SOVIET UNION WITH WORKING GROUP 10.03, AND I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THAT GROUP IN LENINGRAD, PROBABLY ON AUGUST 11 OR 12, IF YOU HAVE NO OBJECTION. THE MEETINGS COULD BE HELD IN EITHER LENINGRAD OR MOSCOW, AS YOU PREFER.

I UNDERSTAND YOU PLAN TO INCLUDE EITHER THREE OR FOUR PERSONS IN THE ADVANCE PARTY REPRESENTING THE U.S.S.R. IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, AND THAT YOU HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THIS GROUP ARRIVE ON EITHER SEPTEMBER 20 OR SEPTEMBER 22. I HAVE NO SERIOUS OBJECTION TO ARRIVAL ON EITHER OF THOSE DATES, BUT I WONDER WHETHER ARRIVAL ON SEPTEMBER 22 WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR US TO COMPLETE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE MAIN U.S.S.R. DELEGATION. SEPTEMBER 22 IS A FRIDAY, AND ARRIVAL WOULD BE IN NEW YORK, MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCOMPLISH ANY WORK ON THAT DAY. I WOULD PREFER TO HAVE COMPLETED MOST OF OUR DISCUSSIONS BEFORE SATURDAY, LEAVING SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AS "RESERVE" WORKING DAYS IN THE EVENT WE FIND MORE TIME NECESSARY. FOR THESE REASONS, I SUGGEST THE GROUP PLAN TO ARRIVE

DIRECTLY FROM MOSCOW IN WASHINGTON ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER

19. THIS WOULD PROVIDE THREE WORKING DAYS BEFORE THE WEEKEND AND MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO EVALUATE OUR PROGRESS AND MAKE THE MOST EFFICIENT USE OF SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. PLEASE LET ME KNOW YOUR DECISION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING ARE WELL UNDER WAY, AND WE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SPECIFIC INFORMATION AS SOON AS WE LEARN MR. NOVIKOV'S WISHES WITH RESPECT TO THE STUDY TOUR. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN SEPTEMBER. SINCERELY, TILA MARIA DE HANCOCK, U.S. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY." CHRISTOPHER
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